

RESPONSE TO REPLY BRIEF

1. The reply brief filed October 14, 2009 has been entered and considered.
2. Again, in response to applicant's arguments against the references individually, one cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.*, 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir. 1986). Azieres clearly and explicitly teaches a maintenance computer and a technical device that transmits data to the maintenance computer for storage (see claim 9, 15, and 17 rejections in the Examiner's Answer filed August 26, 2009). The missing limitation is simply the deletion of the electronic data on termination of the access. Therefore, Othmer is only relied on to teach the missing limitation because the transmission path and storage is taught by Azieres and the direction of travel with the missing limitation would have been obvious.
3. The application has been forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for decision on the appeal.
4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MICHAEL Y. WON whose telephone number is (571)272-3993. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th: 9AM-7PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached on 571-272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Michael Won/

Primary Examiner

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November 16, 2009